MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) "Malayalam Shorthand" has been recommended by the Syllabus Revision Committee as a suitable optional subject of study for the English School Leaving Certificate Examination in the State.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): My question is whether Malayalam Shorthand is an optional subject of study in English Schools. That question has not been answered. It is stated in the answer that the Syllabus Committee has recommended that Malayalam Shorthand may be prescribed as an optional subject in English High Schools.

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) It is, not an optional subject now.

MR A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Do the Government propose to make it an optional subject for the E. S. L. C. Examination?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): Government have not come to a decision in regard to that.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Did this committee go into the question of the syllabus for Vernacular Schools also?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): No.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Will the Government consider the desirability of making Malayalam Shorthand a subject of study in Vernacular Schools also?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): Government will consider the question.

Duties of the Inspectors and the Inspectress of Schools.

335. **MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*): Will the Government be pleased to state what are the duties in respect of inspection of schools of—

(*a*) the Inspector of Vernacular Schools;

(*b*) the Inspector of English Schools; and

(*c*) the Inspectress of Girls' Schools?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) The member is referred to Chapters VIII and IX of the Inspection Code of the Education Department.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know whether this Inspection Code is available?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is available for sale in the Government Press.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is it the rule, Sir, that information contained in any Government publication will not be furnished to us in reply to our interpellations?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is too lengthy n the present instance.

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MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I want to know whether that is the rule; because, if so, we should ascertain, before asking such questions, whether the information we want is available in any of the publications of Government.

PRESIDENT: When information is available in Government publications, which could be got by purchase or otherwise, it does not seem necessary to put them on paper here, nor does it seem very useful for members to ask Government for such information.

Opening of a dispensary at Puthenchira.

386 MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether their attention has ever been drawn to the necessity of opening a dispensary at Puthenchira in the Parur taluk;

(*b*) whther sanction for one has ever been given;

(*c*) if the answer to part (*b*) is in the affirmative, why the sanction was not given effect to;

(*d*) whether the Inspecting Medical Officer has paid a visit to the locality mentioned above and made a report on the necessity for such a dispensary;

(*e*) whether he recommended the opening of one; and

(*f*) whether any provision for the opening of a dispensary is made in the Budget for 1108?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) In view of answer to part (*b*), this question does not arise.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Yes.

(*f*) No provision is made for new dispensaries in the Budget for 1108 on account of the prevailing financial stringency.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*): With reference to the answer to part (*a*), may I know when it came to the notice of the Government?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): First in 1921 but then, the Government ordered that a dispensary was not necessary there.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*): With regard to part, (*d*), may I know when the Medical Officer visited the locality?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): In 1928.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*): So, it has taken seven long years, from 1921 to 1928, for the Government to send their medical officer to see the place?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): What I said was that, in 1921, Government decided that a dispensary was not necessary there. It was after repeated representations made by the people since then that the question was reconsidered by Government, and the Medical Officer inspected the locality in 1928 and recommended the opening of a dispensary there.

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